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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/406,721	09/28/1999	HIROSHI SATOMI	35.C13864	1890

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EXAMINER

DASTOURI, MEHRDAD

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2623

DATE MAILED: 06/21/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/406,721

Applicant(s)

SATOMI, HIROSHI

Examiner

Mehrdad Dastouri

Art Unit

2623

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claims 1-6, 12 and 19 are objected to because of the following informalities:

In Line 12 of Claim 1 and Line 3 of Claim 2, "judgement" should be corrected to "judgment". Claims 3 to 6 depend on Claim 1.

In Lines 4 and 5 of Claim 12, "decided every area" should be corrected to "decided for every area".

In Line 4 of Claim 19, "decided every area" should be corrected to "decided for every area".

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) do not apply to the examination of this application as the application being examined was not (1) filed on or after November 29, 2000, or (2) voluntarily published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b). Therefore, this application is examined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

3. Claims 1-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Watanabe et al (U.S. Patent Application 2002/0015167).

Regarding Claim 1, Watanabe et al disclose a character processing apparatus comprising:

a first storage means for storing therein information relating to an area (Figure 5; Page 3, Paragraph 0028/0029; Figure 15, Step 1102; Page 12, Paragraphs 0157 and 0160. The information related to the character print area will be stored in a predetermined buffer);

a second storage means for storing therein character data in association with an area from which the character data is to be outputted (Figure 5; Page 3, Paragraph 0028/0029; Figure 15, Step 1105; Page 12, Paragraphs 0161);

arrangement means for arranging the character data stored in said second storage means in an area which is created in accordance with the information stored in said first storage means (Figure 5; Page 3, Paragraph 0028/0029; Figure 15, Steps 1104 and 1105; Page 12, Paragraphs 0161);

judgment means for judging whether or not, when the character data is arranged by said arrangement means, there is character data which can not be arranged (Figure 15, Step 1106; Page 12, Paragraph 0161); and

control means for carrying out the control in such a way that said non-arranged character data is stored in third storage means different from said second storage means (Figures 5 and 15; Paragraph 0161, Lines 17-23).

Regarding Claim 2, Watanabe et al further disclose a character processing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein when displaying the area for which it is judged by said judgment means that there is said non-arranged character data, a mark is displayed together therewith which reports that there is the non-arranged character data (Figure 5; Page 3, Paragraph 0029; Page 12, Paragraph 0161).

Regarding Claim 3, Watanabe et al further disclose a character processing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the character data which has been stored in said third storage means is arranged in an area different from the area which is created in accordance with the information stored in said first storage means (Figure 5; Figure 15, Step 1108; Page 12, Paragraphs 0161 and 0162).

Regarding Claim 4, Watanabe et al further disclose a character processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the character data stored in said third storage means is arranged in the position which is specified by a cursor (Page 12, Paragraph 0161, Lines 17-23) .

Regarding Claim 5, Watanabe et al further disclose a character processing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the character data which has been arranged and frame data representing an area are both displayed (Figures 5,15 and 16; Page 3, Paragraph 0028; Page 12, Paragraph 0161).

Regarding Claim 6, Watanabe et al further disclose a character processing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said arrangement means arranges the character data in accordance with the format which is decided for every area (Figure 5; Page 6, Paragraphs 0079-0082).

With regards to Claims 7, 13 and 14, arguments analogous to those presented for Claim 1 are applicable to Claims 7, 13 and 14.

With regards to Claims 8 and 15, arguments analogous to those presented for Claim 2 are applicable to Claims 8 and 15.

With regards to Claims 9 and 16, arguments analogous to those presented for Claim 3 are applicable to Claims 9 and 16.

With regards to Claims 10 and 17, arguments analogous to those presented for Claim 4 are applicable to Claims 10 and 17.

With regards to Claims 11 and 18, arguments analogous to those presented for Claim 5 are applicable to Claims 11 and 18.

With regards to Claims 12 and 19, arguments analogous to those presented for Claim 6 are applicable to Claims 12 and 19.

Other prior art cited

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

U.S. Patent 6,310,693 to Hiraie et al is cited for printing control apparatus and method, and printing system for reducing processing overhead.

U.S. Patent 5,983,231 to Minatogawa et al is cited for instant updating method of a displayed database and apparatus therefore.

U.S. Patent 5,623,612 to Haneda et al is cited for data processing apparatus providing character string copying.

Contact Information

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mehrdad Dastouri whose telephone number is (703) 305-2438. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Amelia Au can be reached on (703) 308-6604. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 308-9051 for regular communications and (703) 308-9051 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the technology Center Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.



Mehrdad Dastouri
Patent Examiner
Group Art Unit 2623
June 17, 2002